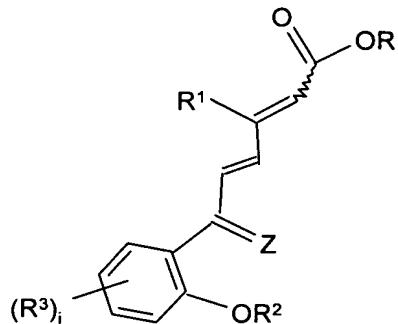


This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1- (Original) Compound of the formula I :



in which

R¹ represents an optionally substituted saturated aliphatic hydrocarbon-based group; an optionally substituted saturated and/or aromatic carbocyclic group; an optionally substituted saturated and/or aromatic heterocyclic group;

R² represents an optionally halogenated saturated aliphatic hydrocarbon-based group; an optionally substituted saturated and/or aromatic carbocyclic group; a saturated aliphatic hydrocarbon-based group which is substituted by an optionally substituted aromatic carbocyclic group; or a saturated aliphatic hydrocarbon-based group which is substituted by a saturated and/or aromatic heterocyclic group;

the radicals R³ represent, independently of each other, a saturated aliphatic hydrocarbon-based group, which is optionally halogenated and/or optionally interrupted by one or more O or S atoms; a halogen atom; a nitro group; cyano; a (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryloxy group, which is optionally substituted by one or more radicals G°; a (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)arylthio group, which is optionally substituted by one or more radicals G°; (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)alkylsulfonyl; (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)arylsulfonyl, in which aryl is optionally substituted by one or more radicals G°; 5- to 7-membered heteroaryl which comprises one or more hetero atoms chosen from O, N and S and is optionally substituted by one or more radicals G°; (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryloxycarbonyl; (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)arylcarbonylamino; (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)alkoxycarbonyl; (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)alkylcarbonylamino; di(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)alkylamino; (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)alkyl, in which aryl is optionally substituted by one or more radicals G°; (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryl, which is optionally substituted by one or more radicals G°; (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)alkylcarbonyl; or (C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>)cycloalkyl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)alkyl, in which cycloalkyl is optionally

substituted by one or more radicals  $G^\circ$ ;

$G^\circ$  is chosen from halogen; optionally halogenated alkoxy; or optionally halogenated alkyl;

R represents a hydrogen atom; a saturated aliphatic hydrocarbon-based group; an amino group, which is optionally substituted by one or two saturated aliphatic hydrocarbon-based groups; or an optionally substituted aromatic carbocyclic group;

Z represents O;  $CHR^4$  in which  $R^4$  takes any of the meanings given above for R;

i represents the integer 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4,

and also the pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

2- (Original) Compound according to Claim 1 of the formula I in which R represents H or  $(C_1-C_{10})$ alkyl;  $R^1$  represents optionally halogenated  $(C_1-C_{10})$ alkyl or optionally substituted  $(C_6-C_{10})$ aryl;  $R^2$  represents optionally halogenated  $(C_1-C_{10})$ alkyl;  $R^3$  represents optionally halogenated  $(C_1-C_{10})$ alkyl; optionally halogenated  $(C_1-C_{10})$ alkoxy; or a halogen atom;

Z represents O or  $CHR^4$  in which  $R^4$  is H or  $(C_1-C_{10})$ alkyl.

3- (Currently Amended) Compound according to claim 1 either of Claims 1 and 2 of the formula I in which  $R^1$  represents  $-CH_3$  or  $-phenyl$ .

4- (Currently Amended) Compound according to claim 1 any one of Claims 1 to 3 of the formula I in which Z represents O.

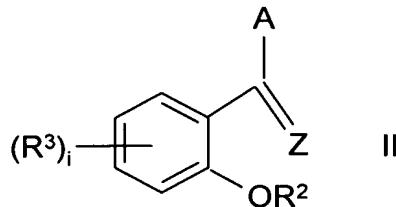
5- (Currently Amended) Compound according to claim 1 any one of Claims 1 to 4 of the formula I in which i = 1 and  $R^3$  located in position 5 of the phenyl nucleus represents  $(C_1-C_6)$ alkyl;  $(C_1-C_6)$ alkoxy; or a halogen atom.

6- (Currently Amended) Compound according to claim 1 any one of Claims 1 to 5 of the formula I in which  $R^2$  represents  $(C_1-C_6)$ alkyl.

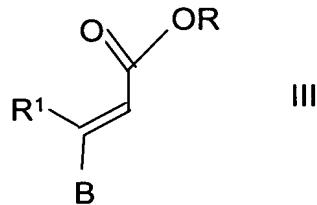
7- (Original) Compound according to Claim 1 of the formula I chosen from the following compounds:

- (E,E)-6-(2,5-dimethoxyphenyl)-6-oxo-3-methylhexa-2,4-dienoic acid;
- ethyl (E,E)-6-(2-methoxy-5-ethylphenyl)-6-oxo-3-methylhexa-2,4-dienoate;
- (E,E)-6-(2-methoxy-5-ethylphenyl)-6-oxo-3-methylhexa-2,4-dienoic acid;
- ethyl (E,E)-6-(2-methoxy-5-chlorophenyl)-6-oxo-3-methylhexa-2,4-dienoate;
- (E,E)-6-(2-methoxy-5-chlorophenyl)-6-oxo-3-methylhexa-2,4-dienoic acid;
- (E,E)-6-(2,5-dimethoxyphenyl)-6-oxo-3-phenylhexa-2,4-dienoic acid;
- ethyl (E,E)-6-(2,5-dimethoxyphenyl)-6-oxo-3-methylhexa-2,4-dienoate;
- ethyl (E,E)-6-(2-benzyloxy-5-methoxyphenyl)-6-oxo-3-methylhexa-2,4-dienoate;
- ethyl (E,E)-6-(2,5-dimethoxyphenyl)-6-oxo-3-propylhexa-2,4-dionate;
- (E,E)-6-(2,5-dimethoxyphenyl)-6-oxo-3-propylhexa-2,4-dienoic acid;
- (E,E)-6-(2-hydroxy-5-methoxyphenyl)-6-oxo-3-methylhexa-2,4-dienoic acid;
- ethyl 6-(2-isobutoxy-5-methoxyphenyl)-6-oxo-3-methylhexa-2,4-dienoate; and
- 6-(2-isobutoxy-5-methoxyphenyl)-6-oxo-3-methylhexa-2,4-dienoic acid.

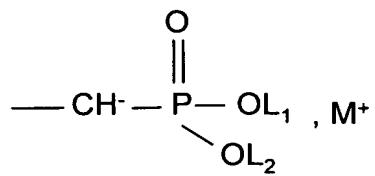
8- (Currently Amended) Process for the preparation of a compound of the formula I according to claim 1 ~~any one of Claims 1 to 7~~, which comprises the reaction of a compound of the formula II:



in which i, R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>2</sup> and Z are as defined above for formula I in Claim 1, with a compound of the formula III:



in which R<sup>1</sup> and R are as defined, except that R does not represent a hydrogen atom for formula I in Claim 1, and either A or B represents -CHO, the other representing:



in which L<sub>1</sub> and L<sub>2</sub> are (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl and M<sup>+</sup> represents a monovalent cation.

9- (Currently Amended) Pharmaceutical composition comprising one or more compounds of the formula I according to claim 1 ~~any one of Claims 1 to 7~~, in combination with one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients.

10- (Currently Amended) Use of a compound according to claim 1 ~~any one of Claims 1 to 7~~, for the preparation of a pharmaceutical composition that can be used for the treatment and prevention of dyslipidaemia, atherosclerosis and diabetes.